

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 049992

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. EMBASSY TEHRAN ANALYZES IRAN-IRAQ TENSIONS: IRAN'S ACTIONS HAVE BEEN INCONSISTENT, WITH DECISIVE MILITARY MOVES OFFSET BY MILD DIPLOMATIC AND MEDIA CAMPAIGNS. POLITICAL FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THIS AMBIVALENCE INCLUDE:

--A DESIRE TO KEEP THE IRAQI REGIME OFF BALANCE;

--THE IRANIAN MILITARY'S TRADITIONAL LACK OF TOLERANCE FOR IRAQI BREACHES OF BORDER PEACE;

--LACK OF PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR A HOSTILE POLICY TOWARD IRAQ;

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--THE NEED TO MAINTAIN COOPERATION WITH OTHER

ARAB STATES.

BORDER SKIRMISHES WILL CONTINUE, BUT RESTRAINT SHOULD
DOMINATE IN IRAN. (STATE)

2. BAHR THINKS SOVIETS WANT A SUCCESSFUL CSCE: DURING HIS
RECENT VISIT TO MOSCOW, EGON BAHR WAS IMPRESSED BY THE
ATTENTION THE SOVIETS FOCUSED ON THE CONFERENCE.
OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE SLOW PROGRESS IN GENEVA
AND SPECIFICALLY CRITICIZED THE FRG FOR ITS POSITIONS ON
BASKET ONE, ON CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES, AND ON
BASKET THREE. THE SOVIETS PUSHED FOR A SUMMIT MEETING
TO CONCLUDE CSCE BUT WERE COOL TO THE FRG PROPOSAL OF A
FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING AT THE END OF THE CONFERENCE'S
SECOND STAGE. (STATE)

3. VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT IS SWORN IN: IN HIS INAUGURAL
ADDRESS CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ:

--PRAISED THE "NEW DIALOGUE OFFERED BY THE US" AS
EVIDENCED BY THE RECENT PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS;

--SAID HIS COUNTRY'S INTERESTS AND THOSE OF MULTI-
NATIONAL ENTERPRISES WILL SELDOM COINCIDE, BUT IT
IS TO THE BENEFIT OF BOTH TO SEEK AGREEMENT AND
UNDERSTANDING;

--ADDED THAT THE REVERSION TO THE STATE OF
VENEZUELA'S RESOURCES SHOULD BE SPEEDED UP;

--PROMISED TO USE EXCESS PETROLEUM REVENUES TO SET
UP A FUND IN THE IDB FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.
(STATE)

4. US-SWEDISH RELATIONS: SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER AND-
ERSSON HOPES THE US WILL SEND AN AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN IN
THE SPRING BUT SAYS THE US MUST MAKE THE FIRST MOVE
SINCE ANY SWEDISH INITIATIVE COULD BE SEEN AS A
RETRACTION OF STATEMENTS MADE ON US WARFARE IN VIETNAM.
(STATE) KISSINGER

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